E-FILED 1 FEBRUARY 01, 2021 2 3:53 PM XOCHITL LEOS 3 FRANKLIN COUNTY CLERK 4 5 6 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF FRANKLIN 7 WASHINGTON TRUST BANK, 8 No. 21-2-50049-11 Plaintiff, 9 **OBJECTION OF EASTERDAY** v. 10 FARMS, INC., AND EASTERDAY RANCHES, INC., TO MOTION TO EASTERDAY RANCHES, INC., 11 EASTERDAY FARMS, CODY SHORTEN TIME EASTERDAY, DEBBY EASTERDAY, and 12 KAREN EASTERDAY 13 Defendant. 14 15 Defendants Easterday Ranches, Inc. ("Ranches"), and Easterday Farms ("Farms") object to Washington Trust Bank's (the "Bank") Motion to Shorten Time (the 16 17 "Motion") for hearing on the Bank's Motion for Appointment of Receiver (the 18 "Receivership Motion"). In support of this Objection, Ranches and Farms state: 19 With no advance warning to Ranches or Farms, the Bank filed the Motion at approximately 4:45 p.m. on Friday, January 29, 2021. The Bank appears to be seeking a 20 hearing on the Motion and the Receivership Motion at 2:30 p.m. on Monday, 21

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February 1, 2021. The hearing requested is less than one full business day from the time the Bank filed the Motion and the Receivership Motion. Holding a hearing on the Receivership Motion in this amount of time would be the functional equivalent of hearing the Receivership Motion *ex parte* and would operate to deny Ranches and Farms notice, an opportunity to present countervailing evidence, and, at the most fundamental level, due process under the law.

Further, other facts weigh against granting the Motion:

- 1. Ranches and Farms have each replaced their former management and are now governed by directors and officers that are independent of former management.

  The independent directors and officers operate free of impediment to fulfill their duties to maximize the value of the assets of Ranches and Farms. The independent directors and officers are nationally respected professionals in the restructuring industry.
- 2. Ranches has filed a Chapter 11 bankruptcy case. This filing brings the assets of Ranches under the oversight of the United States Bankruptcy Court and provides all parties with the rights and procedures set forth in the United States Bankruptcy Code. Any action against Ranches, including the receivership action, will be stayed by Ranches' bankruptcy filing.
- 3. Farms will file a Chapter 11 bankruptcy case in short order. Such a filing will provide the same oversight and protections for all parties in interest. Any action against Farms will be stayed once its bankruptcy case is filed.

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1   2	Based upon the foregoing, Ranches and Farms ask that the Motion be denied or, if the Motion is to be granted, that a hearing on the Receivership Motion to be scheduled
3 4	before February 8, 2021.
5	DATED this 1 <sup>st</sup> day of February, 2021.  BUSH KORNFELD LLP
7	By/s/ Thomas A. Buford Thomas A. Buford, WSBA #52969
8	601 Union Street, Suite 5000 Seattle, Washington 98101 Tel: (206) 292-2110
10	Email: tbuford@bskd.com  Bankruptcy Counsel for Easterday Ranches, Inc.
11	and Easterday Farms
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